

### **REMARKS**

This Paper is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed on December 20, 2005 having a shortened statutory response period ending on March 20, 2006. This Paper is submitted within the statutory response period. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 02-1818.

Claims 2-32 and new claims 35-42 are presently pending in this application. Claims 1 and 33-34 have been canceled. The indication of allowable subject matter in claims 3-5 and 9-32 is noted with appreciation.

The drawings were objected to because the replacement drawings sheets submitted on August 31, 2004 included sheet 2 of 17 that was a duplicate of sheet 1 of 17. Accompanying this response are Replacement Sheets 1-16 showing Figures 1-38.

Claims 1, 2 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) for allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,608,043 to Larkin (*Larkin*). Claims 7-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for allegedly being obvious over *Larkin*. Claim 1 has been canceled, and claims 2 and 6-8 presently depend from claim 3, an allowed claim, and are likewise allowable. Consequently, the alleged rejections have been rendered moot.

### **CONCLUSION**

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the above-identified patent application is now in condition for allowance and earnestly solicit reconsideration of same.

Respectfully submitted,

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